



OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward
Director

MEMORANDUM

May 25, 2022

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director
Office of Management and Budget

cc: Gabe Albornoz, President
County Council

From: Tiffany Ward, Director
Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) for Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #22-89
Snow Removal/Wind and Rainstorm Cleanup

- I. **FINDING:** The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that Supplemental Appropriation #22-89 Snow Removal/Wind and Rainstorm Cleanup neither advances nor impedes racial equity and social justice in the County as it provides resources for services rendered across the County for snow removal and storm cleanup.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The purpose of Supplemental Appropriation #22-89 is to fund snow removal and wind and rainstorm expenditures incurred during FY22. The appropriation includes \$12,472,739 for the Department of Transportation (DOT) and \$3,146,137 for the Department of General Services (DGS) for items such as staff overtime, contractual services, and materials. Due to the relative unpredictability of these weather events, supplemental appropriations are used to enhance existing response efforts in both DOT and DGS.

Typically, ORESJ analyzes the beneficiaries of a supplemental appropriation and any existing inequities causing disproportionate burden to determine potential racial equity and social justice impacts. However, because this supplemental appropriation functions as a reimbursement for services delivered and because those services were distributed

based on weather events, it is difficult to assess what future racial equity impacts of this appropriation might be.

In general, snow removal and storm cleanup benefit all county residents, homeowners, business owners, pedestrians, and visitors. And to the extent that people of color are represented, they also benefit. While beyond the scope of this REIA, further research around the policies and processes used to deploy snow removal and storm clean up resources could help to ensure that communities most reliant on walking, biking, or public transportation routes are able to safely and reliably travel throughout the County.

cc: Christopher Conklin, Director, Department of Transportation
David Dise, Director, Department of General Services
Ken Hartman, Director, Office of Strategic Partnership, Office of the County Executive